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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/826,632 | 04/05/2001 | Noriyoshi Satoh | 32184US1 | 4480 |

116 7590 10/29/2002

PEARNE & GORDON LLP
526 SUPERIOR AVENUE EAST
SUITE 1200
CLEVELAND, OH 44114-1484

EXAMINER

LE, DANG D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 10/29/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/826,632

Applicant(s)

SATOH ET AL.

Examiner

Dang D Le

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5-8,10,11,13 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5-8,10,11,13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 17 September 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3, 5-8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
4. Claims 3, 5-8, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuzaki et al. in view of Michalak et al.

Regarding claim 3, Tsuzaki et al. show an apparatus (Figures 1-14) comprising:

- A vibration motor (Figure 1) having:

- A base (1a and 1b) having a front surface (left);
- A rotary member (8) provided on the front surface of the base; and
- A cover (6) having an electromagnetically shielding property (metal, column 3, lines 20-25) and covering the rotary member (8);
- A board (12, Figure 3) on which the vibration motor is mounted.

Tsuzaki et al. do not show a shield member covering at least a part of the board, wherein the vibration motor is disposed inside the shield member.

Michalak et al. show a shield member (104) covering at least a part of the board (106), wherein the vibration motor (200) is disposed inside the shield member for the purpose of making a cell phone.

Since Tsuzaki et al. and Michalak et al. are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use a shield member covering at least a part of the board, wherein the vibration motor is disposed inside the shield member as taught by Michalak et al. for the purpose discussed above.

Regarding claim 5, it is noted that Tsuzaki et al. also show the cover having a hole (for shaft 8) for connecting spaces of inside and outside of the cover to each other.

Regarding claim 6, it is noted that Tsuzaki et al. also show the cover (6) perfectly contacting to the front surface of the base (1a and 1b) to perform positioning of the cover in a height direction.

Regarding claim 7, it is noted that Tsuzaki et al. also show a fillet (5a) formed on the outside of the base and used for positioning the vibration motor.

Regarding claim 8, it is noted that Tsuzaki et al. also show the cover being electrically connected to the board.

Regarding claim 10, it is noted that Michalak et al. also show a portable electronic equipment.

Regarding claim 11, it is noted that Tsuzaki et al. also show the cover having a flat surface (left side) for an air-sucking.

5. Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuzaki et al. in view of Michalak et al. as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Kadokura.

Regarding claim 13, the apparatus of Tsuzaki et al. modified by Michalak et al. shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention except for the cover being made of resin; the cover being coated with non-electrolytic copper; and the cover coated with non-electrolytic copper being coated with non-electrolytic nickel.

Kadokura shows the cover being made of resin (column 5, line 41); the cover being coated with non-electrolytic copper (column 22, line 22); and the cover coated with non-electrolytic copper being coated with non-electrolytic nickel (column 22, line 18) for the purpose of shielding.

Since Tsuzaki et al., Michalak et al. and Kadokura are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to make the cover of resin; to coat the cover with non-electrolytic copper; and to coat the cover coated with non-electrolytic copper with non-electrolytic nickel as taught by Kadokura for the purpose discussed above.

Regarding claim 14, it is noted that Kadokura also shows the resin being selected from the group consisting of acrylonitrile, butadiene and styrene (column 5, lines 39-60).

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Information on How to Contact USPTO

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-0156. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

DDL
October 27, 2002

RC

Dang D Le